

The Halyard

Virginia Department of Education
Office of Educational Technology

February 17-24, 2006



Charlie's Chatter

Way back when I was just starting out as a librarian, I decided that I wanted to read all of the books in my library. I believed that if I did not know what was in the books on the shelves how could I possibly help a student find what they were looking for. So my journey through the 7,000 titles began. I had a wonderful secretary at the time who was also a great reader and she and I set aside Fridays as free reading day. I would gather a stack of books at the beginning of the day and begin to read. I tried not to schedule teaching classes on Fridays, but instead would leave that day open for open checkout. Back then, there were study halls and they came to the library if I did not have classes scheduled.

I would begin reading and as students would come in, they would ask me what I was reading and I would share the story. More often than not, I would give my book to a child before the end of the class period. Sometimes, I

would read aloud and share the funny points. I will never forget sharing the scene in Paul Zindel's *Pardon Me, You're Stepping On My Eyeball*, where the girl visits the fortune teller and sees all of the roaches crawling freely around the room. We all laughed and cringed at the thought of all of those bugs and they fought over who was going to take the book home.

When new books arrived, several avid teacher-readers would join me in reading the new titles; in fact between us, we probably did read all 7,000 titles in that library.

These days, it would be virtually impossible to read every book in the library but my point is that we must continue to look for ways to model our love of reading. We must share the stories with others with such enthusiasm that they too can learn the pleasures that lie within the power of the written word.

There are sev-



eral things I really miss about leaving the school environment and one is the access to the books. So I am trying to visit my public library more often and watching the journal reviews for good titles so I can keep-up with the latest and greatest in young adult literature.

But the thing I miss the most is sharing that story with a child. I envy you and your opportunity to bring the love of reading to a child.

Happy Reading!

Did You Know:

That the flower for February is actually the violet? The rose which is commonly associated with February is the flower for June.



versus



The amethyst is the birthstone for February



Events To Celebrate

Bake For Family Fun Month

February 2002 was the first annual Bake for Family Fun Month.

www.aeb.org/kidsandfamily/bake_for_family_fun_month.html

Bird Feeding Month

Sponsored by the National Bird Feeding Society www.birdfeeding.org

Library Lovers' Month

www.librarysupport.net/librarylovers/

Random Acts of Kindness Week

www.actsofkindness.org

Black History Month

http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/AFAM?jsessionid=8B3FF5CE26754289D6B32D22126C393A?locID=va_s_201

Professional Development and NCLB

Part of the requirements of securing the grant money for Title II Part D is that 25% of the funds must be spent in providing high quality professional development. The definition of high quality includes a statement to the effect that the participants must demonstrate that what they learned at the in-service/workshop is carried over into their teaching and learning.

For this reason, when you attend a professional development activity that is being supported by funds

provided through Title II Part D you will be asked to provide some type of documentation and or follow-up to the activity. It could be that you need to develop a lesson with students or other faculty members. You may be asked to

lead a workshop within your own school or to develop an online activity.

The requirements for the fol-

low-up activity will vary from division to division but it is all a part of meeting the goals of increasing academic achievement through the use of technology.

For additional information, contact the NCLB coordinator within your division or check out the information at: <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Technology/EdTech/>



New Acceptable Use Handbook

A newly revised Acceptable Use Policy has been posted on the DOE web site. The handbook has been updated to include information on cyber ethics and cyber safety issues.

Many school divisions are looking at existing policies and adding information about the emerging technologies including blogging, pod casting, the use of cell phones and other communication devices.

48 Million students ages 5-17 use the Internet regularly and 40% say that their parents do not know what they are doing online

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Technology/AUP/home.shtml>



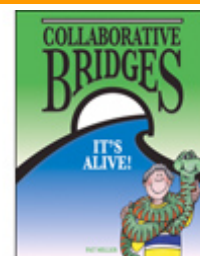
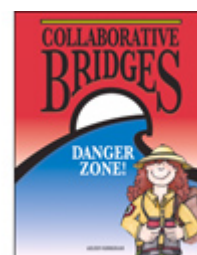
From My Bookcase

Several new books have arrived recently that may be of interest.

1. *Get Them Thinking: Use Media Literacy to Prepare Students for State Assessments* by Sue Lockwood Summers (Linworth)
2. *Collaborative Bridges: It's Alive* by Pat Miller for grades K-2 (Upstart)
3. *Collaborative Bridges: Danger Zone* by Aileen Kirham for grades

3-5 (Upstart)

4. *When Marion Copied, Learning About Plagiarism* by Brook Berg (Upstart)
5. *The Principal's Guide to a Powerful Library Media Program* by Marla W. McGhee and Barbara A. Jansen (Linworth)



Building Critical Thinkers

The summer professional growth opportunities for school librarians is currently under construction. There will be three opportunities to participate in this summer's activities entitled Building Critical Thinkers. Norfolk City Public Schools will host the first session on June 19-12, Washington County will host the second on July 18-20 and Frederick County will host the third on tentatively set for the second week of August.

The workshops will be lead by leading practitioners from around the state who will guide discussions and activities.

Registration information will be forthcoming. Approximately 60 librarians will be able to attend each workshop. Watch for additional details here and on the VEMA listserv.

Tentative Agenda:

Day One: Laying the Foundation:

How do we change the mindset of teachers towards authentic research?

How do we connect Information literacy skills and the critical thinker?

Day Two: Laying the Mortar

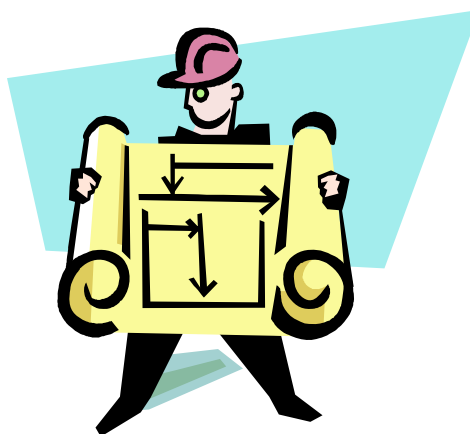
What are the strategies to create a critical thinker?

How do we develop lessons in a standards-based environment?

Day Three: Raising the Roof

Working in groups according to grade level, you will have a chance to brainstorm and create an action plan to bring about change in the way research is approached in your school.

Opportunities exists for librarians from across the state to volunteer to be a facilitator for these sessions. If you are interested, please email Charlie.Makela@doe.virginia.gov or call 804.786.9412.



BUILDING CRITICAL THINKERS

A SUMMER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SPONSORED BY THE
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Outrigger

An outrigger is a projecting member run out from a main structure to provide additional stability or to support something; especially: a projecting frame to support the elevator or tail planes of an airplane or the rotor of a helicopter or in this case to provide support and stability to library programs.

In order to provide assistance

to school divisions, a new project is being developed by the Department of Education that will produce an electronic guide to effective library program administration. The guide will be an extensive bibliography of resources, both print and electronic, that a school librarian can access for assistance in developing an exemplar library program. The handbook will be made available on the department of educa-

tion's Web site. The project will provide information on best practices, findings from the research, ready-made examples of policies and procedures, and ideas for building a library that will reach far into the 21st century.

Susan Thorniley, Coordinator Library Information Services for Fairfax County Schools will lead of group of library supervisors from across the

The Outrigger con't

state in developing the handbook. Division level supervisors and contacts have volunteered to work on this project. The topics on this project include:

Mission Statements and Goals

Writing mission statements, and developing strategies for developing and meeting goals

Marilyn Walls (Hanover)

Tammy Vetter (Fauquier)

Collection Development

Selecting, weeding, cataloging materials, meeting challenges, and connecting instruction

Ann Fondren (Spotsylvania)

TBD

Instructional Strategies

Linking Libraries and Academic Achievement and current trends in instruction

Lizette Hannegan (Arlington)

Collaboration and Integration

How to make collaboration happen and integrate the library into the instructional program of the school

Peggy Koplitz (Alexandria)

Securing Financial Support/ Budgeting

Who supports the library program and where can additional sources of funding be located?

Elaine Marrion (Norfolk)

Bobbi Flynn (Norfolk)

Research

What does the research say? And how does that apply to Virginia.

Why do we need assessment, data, and research

Ann Martin (Henrico)

Barbara Stepp (Montgomery)

Copyright, Fair Use and Digital Challenges

What is the law and how does it impact the school library. How do we communicate the issue with staff and students?

David Jones (Loudoun)

Building Advocacy

Who are our Powerful Partners? Team building with the ITRT and what does Information Power say about it?

Judy Rood (Charlottesville)

Lloyd Thomas (Virginia Beach)

Communication Strategies

Strategies for getting the message out: Student Achievement is our number one goal!

Roxanne Mills (Chesapeake)

Virtual Libraries –Today and Tomorrow

What is a virtual library? Why is a web presence important? What is the library of tomorrow offering today?

David Rankin (Chesterfield)

Facilities

What do I need to consider in building a new library? What technologies should be present? How do we designing for growth?

Denise Kash (Stafford)

These volunteers will be contacting many of you to assist them in locating resources to complete this project. If you or your school division has a policy, regulation or other information that you would be willing to share, please contact them or me.



We can not control the wind but we can adjust the sail.